

March 15, 2016

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To the Honorable Council Woman Kimberly Marcos Pine
and Honorable Members of the City Council of the City and County of Honolulu

**Kāko'o nei i ke Kau Kānāwai 9
e pili ana i nā wahi pana ma loko o nā Paka Kalana ma O'ahu a Kākuhihewa
Support for Bill 9 Relating to Cultural Sites
(The sacred and storied and famous places in the County Parks of O'ahu)**

Aloha kākou:

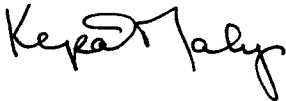
The traditional cultural properties and cultural-historic landscapes of O'ahu are treasured resources that remind us that we are part of a rich history. Many of the early park sites were specifically chosen because of their place in the history of our people and communities. The parks and cultural-historic properties remind of our past, enrich our lives, and are a legacy that we pass on to the future.

A number of the parks include sacred landscapes that are associated with cultural practices and beliefs of our community, and are integral in maintaining the cultural identity of our people. Bill 9 is a long-awaited action that will help us keep the history of place in the minds and hearts of island residents. Signage will inform people of the legacy of place, and may offer a message of our responsibility as stewards of our cultural landscapes and properties.

I humbly request that you support Bill 9 and that you empower the Department of Parks and Recreation to implement this program on behalf of those who came before us and those who will follow us.

One of the many examples where such a program would be of immense value is at Kualoa Regional Park. I was a member of the opening team in 1974-1979, and served as both researcher and program staff. The Kualoa landscape is one of the most noted traditional cultural properties on O'ahu. While the surface has changed radically since western contact, the mana of place and subsurface cultural layer is a reminder of our kuleana in care for the 'āina.

Na'u no me ka ha'aha'a o ke aloha,



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